ALABAMA BAPTIST HISTORICAL SOCIETY

MINUTES

—OF THE—

Twenty-Fifth Annual Session

—OF THE—

Rock Mills Association,

—CONVENED WITH—

PARAN CHURCH,

Randolph County, Ala., October 5-8, 1895.

ORDAINED MINISTERS:

H. R. Moore,.....Forester's Chapel, Randolph Co., Ala.
Wm. McCarter,..... " " " " "
G. F. Weaver,.....Peace, " " " "

LICENTIATES:

W. J. Layton,.....Glenn, Heard Co., Ga.

W. J. Layton, Mod.,.....Glenn, Heard Co., Ga.
R. L. Brumbeloe, Clerk,.....West, Randolph Co., Ala.
H. E. Hester, Treas.,.....Omaha, Randolph Co., Ala.

Montgomery, Ala.:
ALABAMA BAPTIST,
1895.

MINUTES.

The ministers and delegates composing the twenty-fifth annual session of the Rock Mills Association met with Paran church, Randolph County, Alabama, Oct. 5–8, 1895.

After singing the hymn, "Jesus lover of my soul," and prayer by Brother Nathan O'Neal, Elder H. Allen proceeded to preach the Introductory sermon, concluded by Rev. N. O'Neal. Text, 1 Corinthians, 3rd chapter, 9th, and part of the 10th verses, as follows: "For we are laborers together with God; ye are God's husbandry; ye are God's building; according to the grace of God, which is given unto me, as a wise master builder I have laid the foundation, and another buildeth thereon."

The Moderator not being present, Elder H. R. Moore announced one hour's recess; after which the body met for further business. On motion, Elder H. R. Moore was elected Moderator pro tem.

After singing, and prayer by Rev. A. S. Smith, the body proceeded to business in temporary organization.

1. Called to order by the Moderator.

2. Appointed as preaching committee the delegates of Paran church, together with P. M. Gross and J. P. Cole.

3. Read statistical letters and enrolled names of delegates, as follows:

High Shoals—M. F. Ussery, J. R. Stitt.
Union Hill—*J. C. Bailey, *W. T. Bailey.
Union Grove—C. K. Bennett, P. M. Gross, J. B. Adams.
Rocky Branch—*S. A. Pollard, Thos. Fincher, J. H. Evans, R. L. Brumbeloe.
Beulah—*W. T. Kent, James McEwen.
Macedonia—J. P. Cole, Wm. Almond.
Big Springs—H. E. Hester, *A. J. Green *A. W. Duke, W. A. Vowell.
Paran—W. J. Cooper, E. O. Kitchen, J. W. Wood, H. J. Pritchett.

4. Read Decorum.

5. The body was permanently organized by the election of officers for the ensuing year, as follows:

W. J. Layton, Moderator; R. L. Brumbeloe, Clerk.

1. Invited visiting brethren to seats with us, and to aid us in our deliberations.

2. Called for petitionary letters for membership.

3. Called for correspondents, and received the following:
From East Liberty—Rev. A. S. Smith.
Central Western—Elder U. H. Clark.
Arbacoochee—Revs. I. N. Daniel and W. H. Wright.
Cary—Reuben Adamson.

Heard report of Preaching Committee—Rev. W. H. Wright, concluded by Elder U. H. Clark, were appointed to preach at the church at early candlelight.

Appointed standing committees as follows:

On Publications—F. M. Gross, Wm. Almond, Thos. Fincher.
On Sunday Schools—J. R. Stitt, J. P. Cole, H. E. Hester.
On Temperance—H. J. Pritchett, J. B. Adams, J. H. Evans.
On Missions—H. R. Moore, W. A. Vowell, W. T. Kent.
On Deceased Ministers—Nathan O'Neal, J. W. Wood, A. J. Green.
On Finance—M. F. Ussery, H. E. Hester, J. B. Adams.

The business part of the Association stood adjourned until 8 o'clock Monday morning.

According to previous arrangements Revs. Wright and Clark preached from Rom. 1:16: "For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek."

SUNDAY MORNING.

The hour appointed for prayer meeting being past, it was decided at 9:30 that Rev. R. J. Adamson preach, to be followed by Rev. Bro. Owensby. The text was, 1 Cor. 13:13, "And now abideth faith, hope, charity; these three; but the greatest of these is charity."

Elder G. F. Weaver having been appointed the preceding session of the body to preach the missionary sermon, and not being present, Rev. Bro. Whatley was appointed to fill the hour, which he did with an excellent sermon on the subject of missions. Rev. I. N. Daniel concluded. The text was Matt. 7:24-27, "Therefore, whosoever heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them, I will liken him unto a wise man, which built his house upon a rock," etc. At the close of sermon took up a collection for missions, amounting to $14:15.

After dismission and refreshments the congregation re-assembled at the stand at 1:30 p. m., and according to appointment Elder H. Allen occupied the stand, followed by Rev. Bro. Whatley, preaching from Gen. 3:4, latter clause, "Ye shall not surely die."

An opportunity was offered the people to defray the expenses of Bro. Allen for coming and proclaiming his wonderful message of love, which was responded to cheerfully.

Elder H. R. Moore occupied the stand at night, followed by Rev. W. R. Rotton, from the Scripture found in 1 Cor. 1:23, 24, "We preach Christ crucified; unto the Jews a stumbling block, and unto the Greeks foolishness; but unto them which are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God."

MONDAY MORNING.

Pursuant to adjournment met at 8:30. After singing hymn, "Arm of the Lord, awake," and prayer by Elder H. Allen, the body proceeded to business.

1. Renewed call for correspondents and petitionary letters.
2. On motion, Elder G. F. Weaver was appointed to preach the Introductory sermon; alternate to be selected by said brother.
3. On motion, H. R. Moore was appointed to preach the next Missionary sermon; alternate also to be selected by him.
4. On motion, Rev. W. J. Layton was appointed to lecture on Sabbath Schools at the next session of the body.

On motion, the regular order of business was suspended, and the letter from Paran was read and adopted.

5. Appointed general meetings, as follows: General meeting of the First District will meet with Union Hill.

General meeting of the Second District will meet with Union Grove.

The meetings of both districts will be held on Friday before the first Sunday in August, 1896.

6. Macedonia was appointed as the place for holding the next session of the body, on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday after the 3rd Sunday in October, 1896.
7. Called for queries.
8. Called for reports of standing committees.

The report on Publications. Committee not being present, the report on Missions was called for. Action was deferred for the present.

Read and adopted report on Sunday Schools.

Report on Temperance. Committee not being prepared to report, a motion was made to take action on the report on Missions. After stirring argument on the subject by Brethren, Elders H. Allen, H. R. Moore and W. H. Wright, a motion to adjourn for one hour prevailed.

After recess, and singing hymn, "Soldiers of Christ, arise," the body proceeded to business.

On motion, the report on Missions was adopted.

Read, received and adopted report on Publications.

Read, received and adopted the report on Temperance.

Heard and adopted the report on Finance.

Called for report on Deceased Ministers. Rev. Nathan O'Neal stated he had no report, as none had died during the last associational year.

On motion, the regular order of business was suspended, and the body sent up her united petition in token of her gratitude for her ministers being spared through another associational year.

9. Appointed correspondents to sister Associations, as follows:

Cary—Eld. H. R. Moore, J. P. Cole.
Arbacoochee—Brethren J. J. Moore, J. McEwen, S. D. Lewis.
Central Western—Rev. W. J. Layton, H. J. Pritchett.

10. Miscellaneous business:

On motion, a ministers' and deacons' meeting, to be held on some fifth Sunday during the year 1896, was acted upon.

On motion, a committee was appointed to arrange for place, speakers, subjects, etc., for holding said meeting. The committee consists of brethren M. F. Ussery, P. M. Gross and J. P. Cole.

On motion, all undirected funds will be sent to the Foreign Mission Board at Richmond, Va.

Called roll and marked absentees thus *.

Provided for printing the minutes. On motion, the Clerk is to have as many as 200 copies of the minutes printed, and retain all funds above as compensation for his services.

Read and adopted the minutes.

Adjourned to time and place before mentioned.

Resolution adopted:

Resolved, That the thanks of the ministers and delegates be tendered the members of this church and vicinity for the very appreciative manner in which they have entertained the Association at this place.

W. J. LAYTON, Moderator.

R. L. Brumbeloe, Clerk.

APPENDIX.

REPORT ON PUBLICATIONS.

From observations we were enabled to make yesterday, as to how few of our people, in comparison, had read the Scriptures, we would recommend and urge upon the people that they read and search God's Word first, last and all the time. In connection with the same, the Alabama Baptist, the Texas Standard, Christian Index, and Kind Words for Sunday Schools, also Southern Convention Series of Sunday School helps.

P. M. GROSS, Chairman.

REPORT ON MISSIONS.

Your committee regret to say that the Mission spirit is so near dead in the Rock Mills Association.

H. R. MOORE, Chairman.

REPORT ON SUNDAY SCHOOLS.

Your Committee on Sunday Schools beg leave to make the following report: That there could be a great work accomplished in Sunday Schools, but sorry to say we see this great and important work so much neglected in this Association. We, therefore, request each church in this Association to take more interest in this great work than they have heretofore done in teaching the young and rising generation the Word of God.

H. E. HESTER, Chairman.

REPORT ON TEMPERANCE.

When we consider the results from the use of intoxicating drinks, the suffering of the innocent, and the degrading influence upon those yielding to its powers, we truly feel the great responsibility that is resting on us individually as professed servants of God, who so often, by our actions, give encouragement to those moving in this dangerous path. Brethren and sisters, there is much to be done. Work continually for all. Then let us now determine by the help that can be derived alone from Almighty God in his unerring wisdom, and the Holy Spirit's influence, to do our duty in a reasonable and earnest effort to check this one of the greatest evils to mankind.

H. J. PRITCHETT, Chairman.

REPORT ON FINANCE.

Your Committee on Finance beg leave to make the following rereport:

Missions	$27 25
Sunday collection	14 15
Minutes	8 35
Clerk	3 40
Total	$53 15

H. E. HESTER, Chairman.

STATISTICAL REPORT OF ROCK MILLS BAPTIST ASSOCIATION.

CHURCHES.	COUNTIES.	POST-OFFICE.	PASTOR.	CLERK.	Baptized.	Received by Letter.	Dismissed by Letter.	Received by Profession of Faith.	Excluded.	Died.	Total.	Missions.	Minute Fund.	Time of Meeting.
Beulah	Randolph	Omaha, Ala	J. B. Strickland	W. T. Kent	1	2	11				49	$	$ 60	2
Big Springs	"	" "	J. D. H. Roberson	H. E. Hester	1	1	4		1	1	90		1 00	3
High Shoals	"	High Shoals	W. H. Wright	J. R. Stitt	6	4		1			44	9 00	1 00	1
Macedonia	"	Forester's Chapel	H. R. Moore	G. W. Watson	1	1				1	47	5 00	1 25	2
Paran	"	Texas, Ga	I. N. Daniel	W. W. Cobb	5	1	8		3		72		1 50	2
Rocky Branch	"	Haywood, Ala	I. N. Daniel	H. C. Boon		4	2		3		97	5 00	1 30	4
Union Hill	"	Roanoke, Ala	G. F. Weaver	J. T. Kilgore							19		50	1
Union Grove	Heard	State Line, Ga	Nathan O'Neal	J. B. Adams		2	11		3		50	3 00	1 20	1
Pleasant Grove														
*Pleasant Hill														
Total					14	15	34	1	9	2	468	$22 00	$ 8 35	

*Not represented.

ARTICLES OF FAITH.

1. We believe in one true and living God, and that there are three persons in the Godhead—the Father, Son and Holy Ghost.

2. We believe that the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments are the Word of God, and the only rule of faith and practice.

We believe the doctrine of election, as it is laid down in the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments, that God has chosen, elect people, and them will he call, regenerate and sanctify, and finally glorify.

4. We believe in man's impotency to recover himself from the fallen state he is in by nature, by his own free will and ability.

5. We believe in the doctrine of original sin.

6. We believe sinners are justified in the sight of God only by the imputed righteousness of Christ, by faith in him.

7. We believe that the saints shall persevere and never finally fall away.

8. We believe that Baptism and the Lord's Supper are ordinances of Jesus Christ, and that true believers are the only subjects for these ordinances, and that there is no baptism only by immersion.

9. We believe in the general resurrection of the dead, the just and the unjust.

10. We believe that no ministers have the right to the administration of these ordinances except such as are regularly called and come under the imposition of hands by a presbytery.

11. We believe that the punishment of the wicked will be everlasting, and the joys of the righteous will be eternal.

ORDER OF BUSINESS.

TEMPORARILY ORGANIZED:

1. Call to order. Open with prayer.
2. Appoint committees on preaching.
3. Read statistical letters from churches.
4. Reading the Decorum.
5. Elect officers.

PERMANENTLY ORGANIZED:

1. Invite ministering brethren to seats with us.
2. Read petitionary letters for membership.
3. Hear correspondents from other Associations.
4. Appoint standing committees.
5. Appoint a brother to preach Introductory sermon.
6. Appoint a brother to preach Missionary sermon.
7. Appoint a brother to lecture on Sunday Schools.
8. Appoint general meetings.
9. Appoint a place for the next session of the body.
10. Call for queries.
11. Hear reports of committees.
12. Appoint correspondents.
13. Miscellaneous business.
14. Call the roll and mark absentees.
15. Provide for printing the Minutes.
17. Adjourn to time and place.